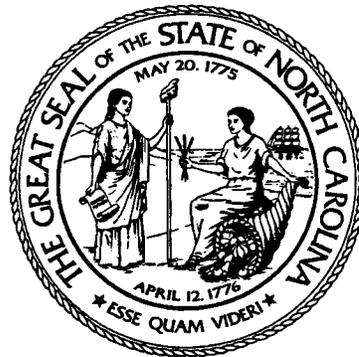


LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION
COASTAL BEACH MOVEMENT ISSUES



REPORT TO THE
1999 GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF NORTH CAROLINA

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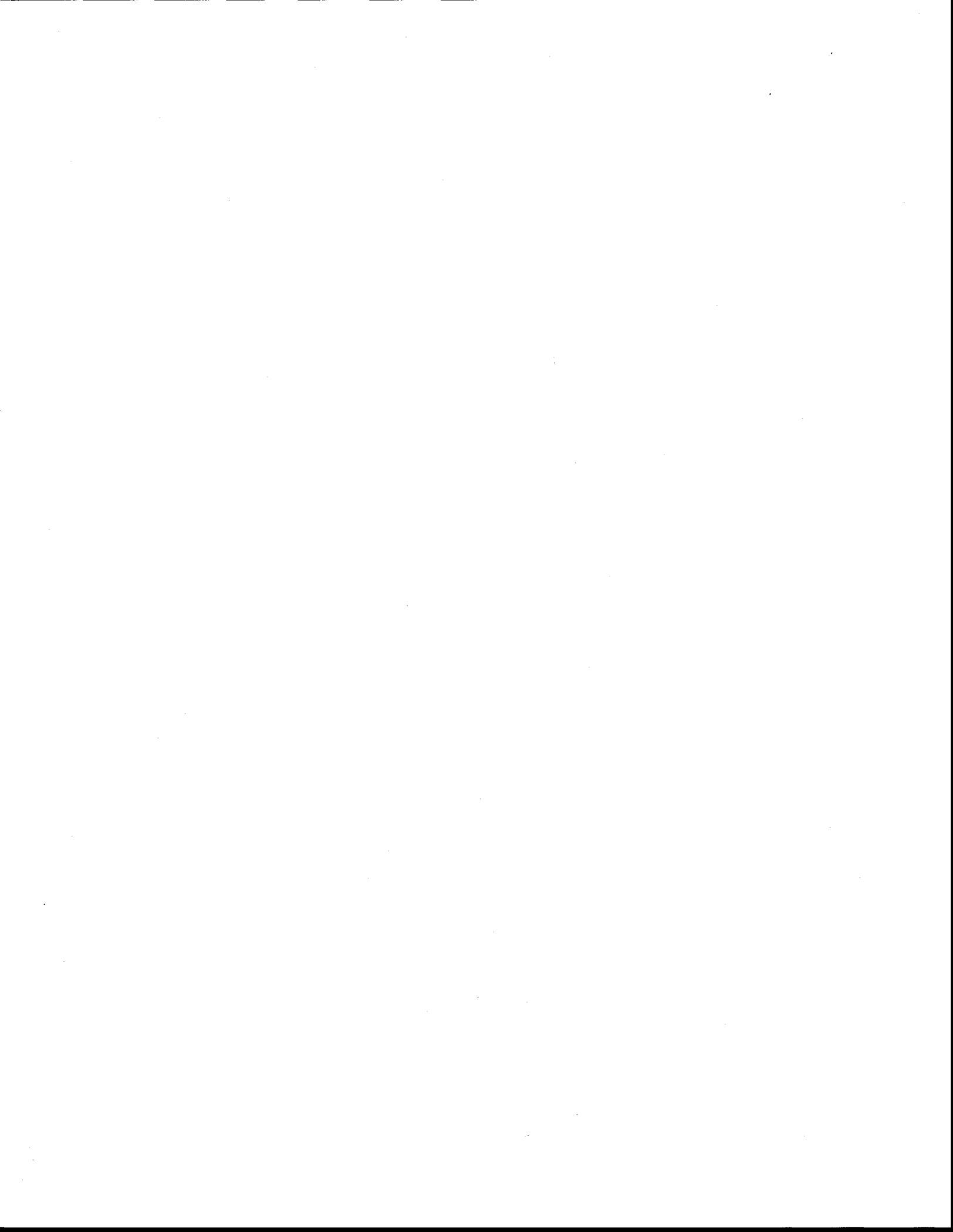
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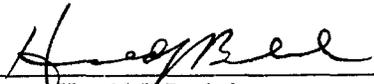
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LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION
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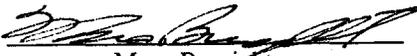
January 8, 1999

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE 1999 GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

The Legislative Research Commission herewith submits to you for your consideration its final report on Coastal Beach Movement Issues. The report was prepared by the Legislative Research Commission's Committee on Coastal Beach Movement Issues pursuant to G.S. 120-30.17(1).

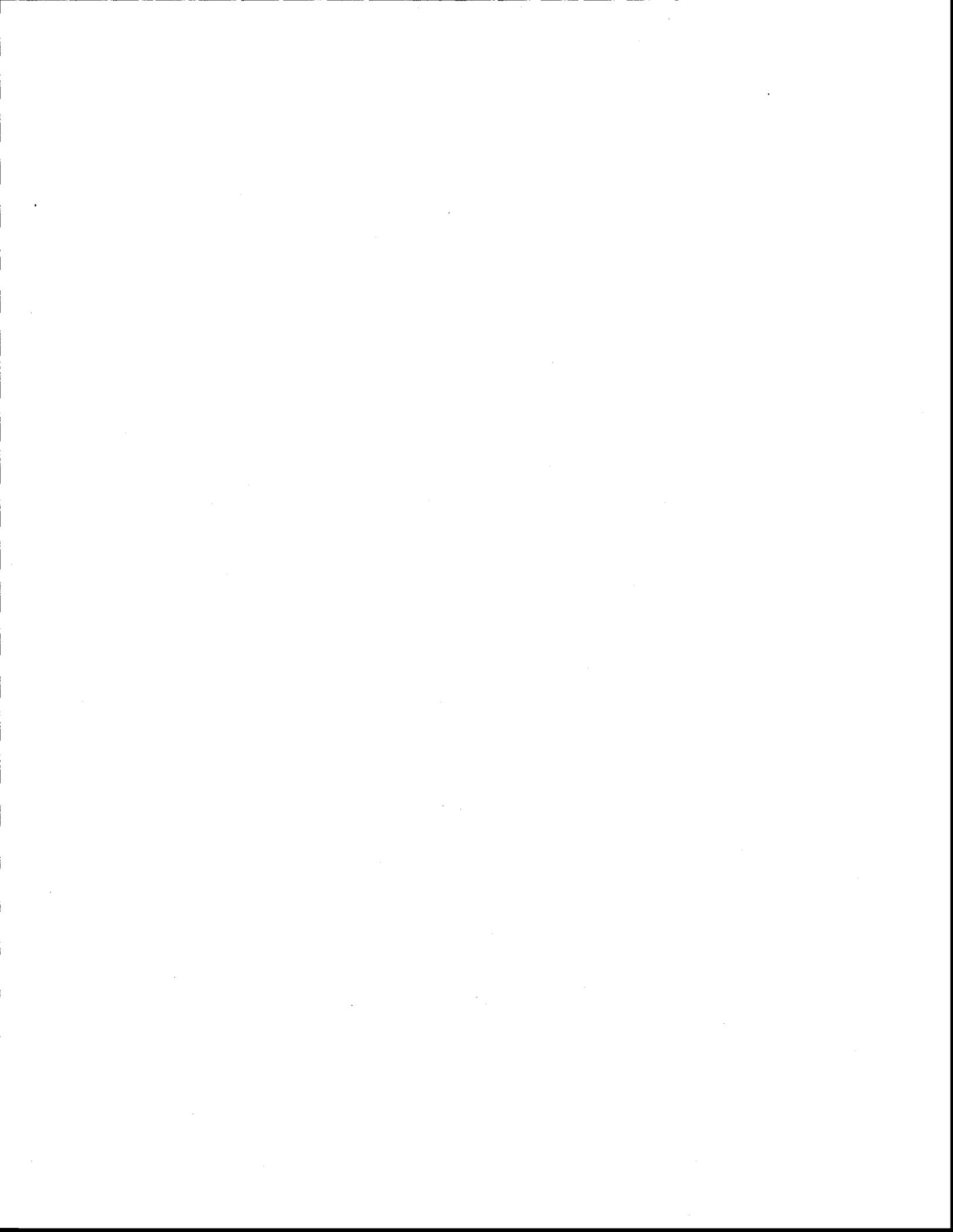
Respectfully submitted,


Harold J. Brubaker
Speaker of the House


Marc Basnight
President Pro Tempore

Cochair
Legislative Research Commission





1997-1999

LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION

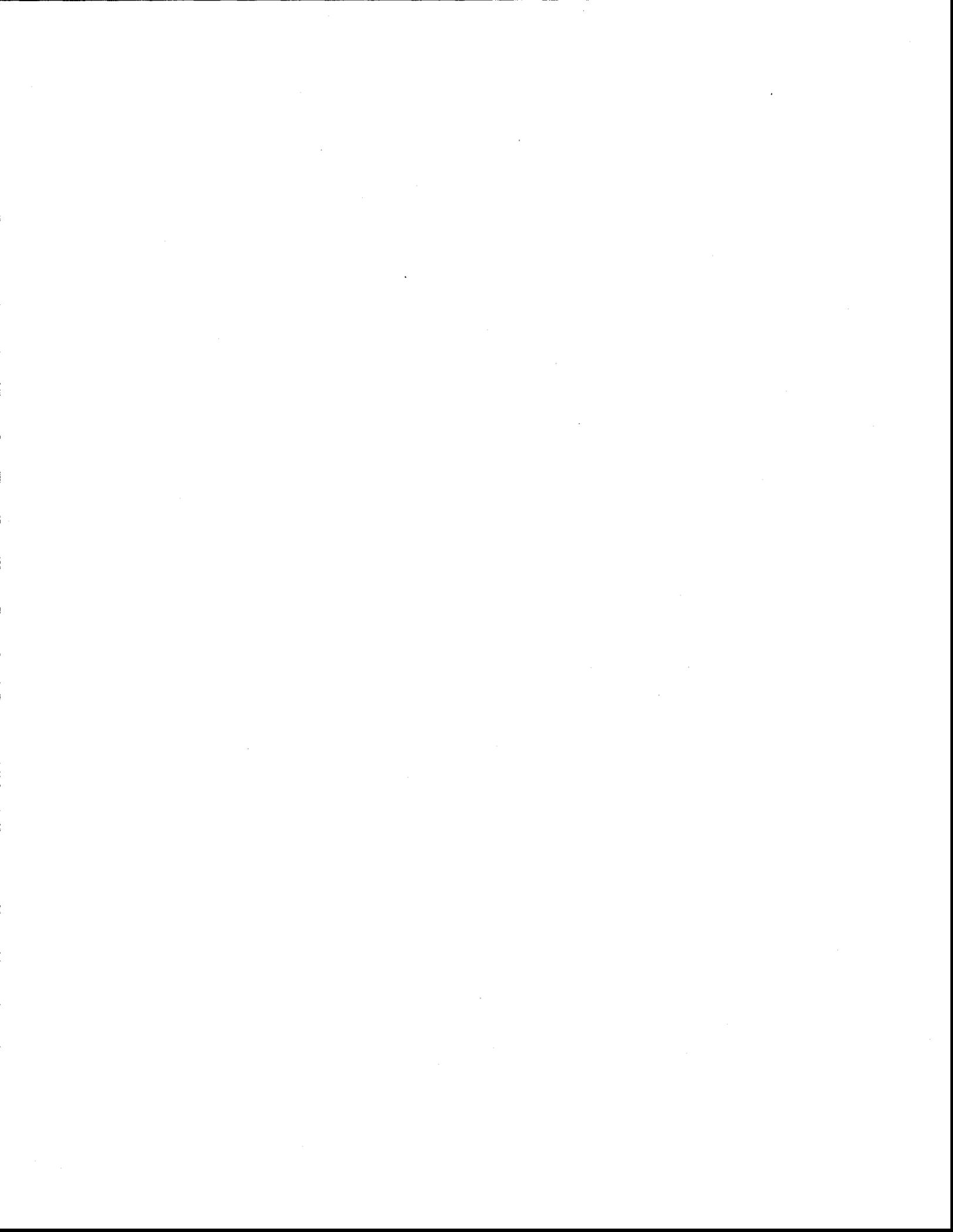
MEMBERSHIP

President Pro Tempore of the Senate
Marc Basnight, Cochair

Sen. Austin M. Allran
Sen. Frank W. Ballance, Jr.
Sen. Jeanne H. Lucas
Sen. R.L. Martin
Sen. Ed N. Warren

Speaker of the House of Representatives
Harold J. Brubaker, Cochair

Rep. Michael P. Decker, Sr.
Rep. Jerry C. Dockham
Rep. Beverly Earle
Rep. W. Eugene McCombs
Rep. Gregory J. Thompson

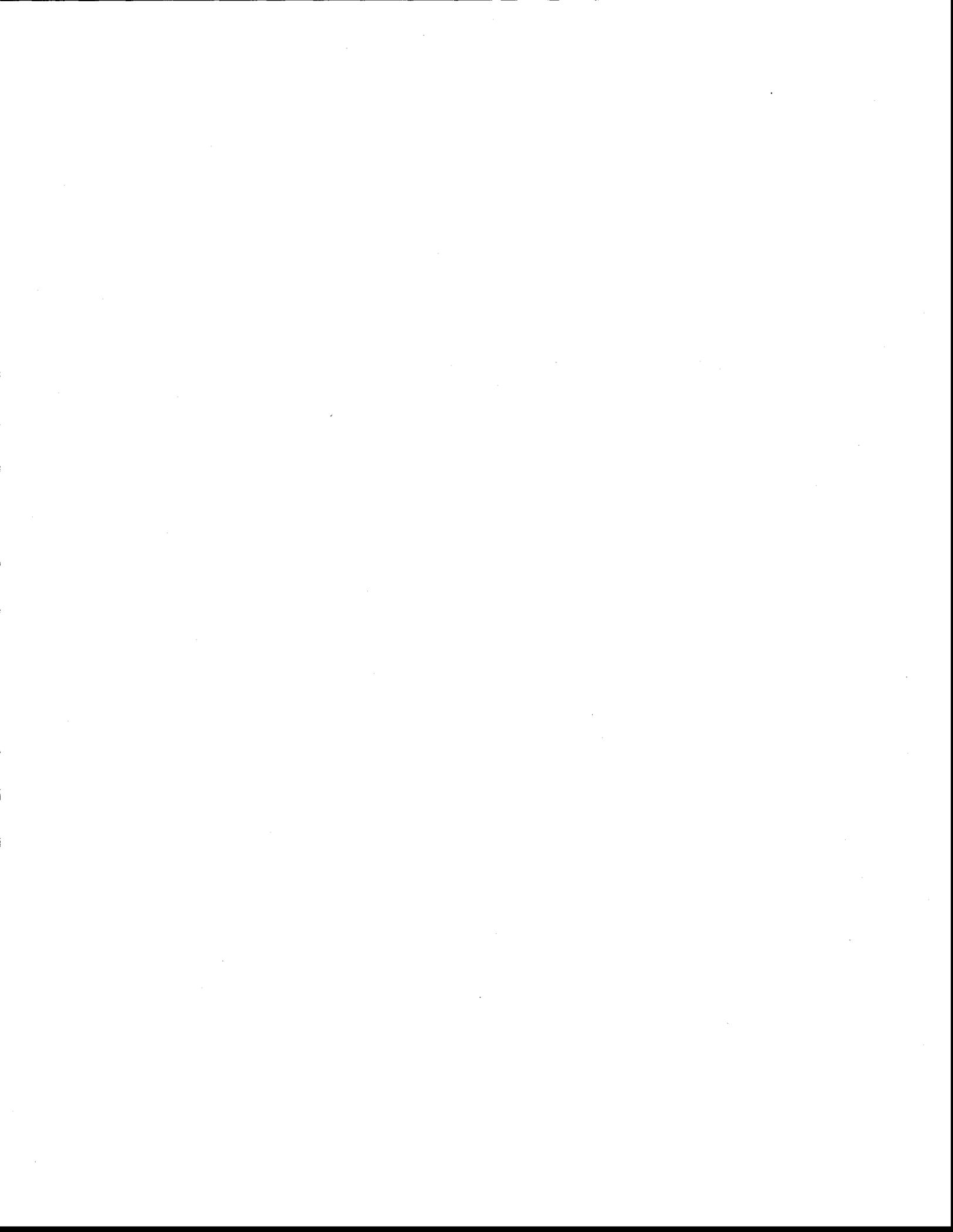


PREFACE

The Legislative Research Commission, established by Article 6B of Chapter 120 of the General Statutes, is the general purpose study group in the Legislative Branch of State Government. The Commission is cochaired by the Speaker of the House and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and has five additional members appointed from each house of the General Assembly. Among the Commission's duties is that of making or causing to be made, upon the direction of the General Assembly, "such studies of and investigations into governmental agencies and institutions and matters of public policy as will aid the General Assembly in performing its duties in the most efficient and effective manner" (G.S. 120-30.17(1)).

The Legislative Research Commission, prompted by actions during the 1997 Session, has undertaken studies of numerous subjects. These studies were grouped into broad categories and each member of the Commission was given responsibility for one category of study. The Cochairs of the Legislative Research Commission, under the authority of G.S. 120-30.10(b) and (c), appointed committees consisting of members of the General Assembly and the public to conduct the studies. Cochairs, one from each house of the General Assembly, were designated for each committee.

The study of coastal beach movement issues was authorized by 2.1(3) of Chapter 483 of the 1997 Session Laws. The relevant portions of Chapter 483 are included in Appendix B. Legislative Research Commission authorized this study under authority of G.S. 120-30.17(1) and grouped this study in its environmental area under the direction of Senator Austin Allran. The Committee was chaired by Ray Sturza and Representative Cindy Watson. The full membership of the Committee is listed in Appendix C of this report. A committee notebook containing the committee minutes and all information presented to the committee is filed in the Legislative Library.



COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS

Due to the unusual length of the 1998 Regular Session of the General Assembly, the Legislative Research Commission's Study Committee on Coastal Beach Movement Issues met only once since it filed its interim report with the Legislative Research Commission. Although prior to the start of the 1998 Session the Committee worked diligently in pursuing its charge of studying coastal beach movement issues, many items of study, including the financial aspects of beach renourishment and storm hazard mitigation on the barrier islands, remain to be addressed. The Committee, therefore, voted to recommend to the Legislative Research Commission that the Coastal Beach Movement Issues study be reauthorized



FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Legislative Research Commission's Study Committee on Coastal Beach Movement Issues was unable to complete its work due to the unanticipated length of the 1998 Regular Session. Several issues, critical to the development of State policy regarding coastal beach movement and storm hazard mitigation, remain to be addressed. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Legislative Research Commission adopt and forward to the 1999 General Assembly its Legislative Proposal entitled **A JOINT RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION TO CONTINUE ITS STUDY OF COASTAL BEACH MOVEMENT AND STORM MITIGATION ISSUES.**



APPENDIX A

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1999

S

D

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 99-LH-012
(THIS IS A DRAFT AND IS NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
2 COMMISSION TO CONTINUE ITS STUDY OF COASTAL BEACH MOVEMENT AND
3 STORM MITIGATION ISSUES.

4 Whereas, the Legislative Research Commission's Study
5 Committee on Coastal Beach Movement Issues has been diligently
6 addressing the concerns regarding coastal beach movement, beach
7 renourishment, and storm mitigation; and

8 Whereas, the Study Committee was unable to complete its
9 work due to the unanticipated length of the 1998 Regular Session;
10 and

11 Whereas, several issues critical to the crafting and
12 development of an appropriate State policy regarding coastal
13 beach movement, beach renourishment, and storm mitigation remain
14 to be studied; Now, therefore,

15 Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives
16 concurring:

17 Section 1. The Legislative Research Commission may
18 study issues relating to:

19 (a) Coastal beach movement and beach renourishment,
20 including the following:

- 21 (1) The value cost.
22 (2) The level of need.
23 (3) The return on investment.
24 (4) The eligible participants.

25 (b) Storm hazard mitigation, including the following:

- 1 (1) The need for and feasibility of requiring full
2 disclosure of natural hazards to persons
3 acquiring property on barrier islands.
4 (2) The need for and feasibility of restricting
5 future State subsidies and support of
6 development in designated high hazard areas on
7 the barrier islands. The Commission shall
8 specifically consider State expenditures to
9 construct and maintain infrastructure, such as
10 roads and bridges; the availability of State
11 grants and loans for development; and repeated
12 claims for disaster relief in high hazard
13 areas.
14 (3) The need for and feasibility of establishing a
15 program for acquisition of lands in high
16 hazard areas.
17 (c) Any other issues relevant to these topics.
18 Section 2. The Legislative Research Commission may make
19 its recommendations and submit an interim report to the 1999
20 General Assembly, Regular Session 2000, and may make a final
21 report to the 2001 General Assembly.
22 Section 3. This resolution is effective upon
23 ratification.

APPENDIX B

CHAPTER 483 1997 Session Laws

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE STUDIES BY THE LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION, TO CREATE AND CONTINUE VARIOUS COMMISSIONS, TO CONTINUE A COUNCIL, TO DIRECT STATE AGENCIES AND LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS TO STUDY SPECIFIED ISSUES, AND TO IMPOSE A MORATORIUM ON SERVICE CORPORATION CONVERSIONS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

PART I.-----TITLE

Section 1. This act shall be known as "The Studies Act of 1997".

PART II.-----LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION

Section 2.1. The Legislative Research Commission may study the topics listed below. When applicable, the bill or resolution that originally proposed the issue or study and the name of the sponsor is listed. Unless otherwise specified, the listed bill or resolution refers to the measure introduced in the 1997 Regular Session of the 1997 General Assembly. The Commission may consider the original bill or resolution in determining the nature, scope, and aspects of the study.

- (3) Coastal beach movement issues including, but not limited to:
- a. Beach renourishment; the value cost, level of need, return on investment, and eligible participants.
 - b. Storm hazard mitigation (S.B. 432 - Odom and Horton).

Section 2.11. Committee Membership. For each Legislative Research Commission committee created during the 1997-98 biennium, the cochairs of the Legislative Research Commission shall appoint the committee membership.

Section 2.12. Reporting Date. For each of the topics the Legislative Research Commission decides to study under this Part or pursuant to G.S. 120- 30.17(1), the Commission may report its findings, together with any recommended legislation, to the 1997 General Assembly, 1998 Regular Session, or the 1999 General Assembly.

Section 2.13. Funding. From the funds available to the General Assembly, the Legislative Services Commission may allocate additional monies to fund the work of the Legislative Research Commission.

PART XVII.-----EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICABILITY

Section 17.1. Except as otherwise specifically provided, this act becomes effective July 1, 1997. If a study is authorized both in this act and the Current Operations Appropriations Act of 1997, the study shall be implemented in accordance with the Current Operations Appropriations Act of 1997 as ratified.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 28th day of August, 1997.

s/ Marc Basnight
President Pro Tempore of the Senate

s/ Harold J. Brubaker
Speaker of the House of Representatives

s/ James B. Hunt, Jr.
Governor

Approved 11:00 a.m. this 10th day of September, 1997

APPENDIX C

**LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION
COASTAL BEACH MOVEMENT ISSUES COMMITTEE
1997-1999**

Pro Tem's Appointments

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Mr. Wade Horne
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Supply, NC 28462

Mr. James W. Piner
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Mrs. Llewellyn Fike Ramsey
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Atlantic Beach, NC 28512

Mr. Ken Stewart
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Mr. Sterling Webster
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Rep. Daniel F. McComas
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Rep. Jane H. Mosley
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Rep. Jean R. Preston
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